

Rhode Island Statewide Planning Program  
**STATE PLANNING COUNCIL**

**Thursday, May 12, 2011**  
William E. Powers Building  
Conference Room A  
One Capitol Hill, Providence, RI

**I. ATTENDANCE**

**Members Present**

|                                   |   |
|-----------------------------------|---|
| Mr. Richard Licht, Chair          | Director, RI DOA                                  |
| Mr. Brian Daniels, Vice Chair     | Director, Governor's Policy Office                |
| Mr. Jared L. Rhodes, II Secretary | Chief, Statewide Planning Program                 |
| Ms. Jeanne Boyle                  | RI LOCAT, President's Designee                    |
| Ms. Jeanne Cola                   | Chair, RI Housing Resources Commission            |
| Ms. Sharon Conard-Wells           | West Elmwood Housing Development Corporation      |
| Mr. Thomas Deller                 | Providence Department of Planning & Dev.          |
| Mr. Thomas Mullaney               | RI DOA, Budget Office                             |
| Mr. L. Vincent Murray             | RI LOCAT, Government Official Representative      |
| Mr. William Sequino               | Public Member                                     |
| Mr. Henry Sherlock                | Representing Mr. Stephen Cardi, Cardi Corporation |
| Mr. Bob Shawver                   | Representing Mr. M. Lewis, Governor's Designee    |
| Mr. John Trevor                   | Environmental Advocate                            |
| Ms. Janet White-Raymond           | Public Member                                     |

**Members Absent**

|                   |  |
|-------------------|--|
| Mr. Dan Beardsley | RI League of Cities and Towns (RI LOCAT) |
| Ms. Anna Prager   | Public Member                            |

**Guests**

|                       |                                 |
|-----------------------|---------------------------------|
| Ms. Sharen Ahern      | Town of Westerly                |
| Ms. Barbara Breslin   | Federal Highway Administration  |
| Mr. Michael Hogan     | RI House Policy Office          |
| Mr. Sam Shamoon       | Citizen                         |
| Ms. Katherine Trapani | Quonset Development Corporation |
| Mr. Richard Youngken  | Town of Westerly                |

**Staff – Division of Planning**

|                     |  |
|---------------------|--|
| Mr. Kevin Flynn     | Associate Director, Statewide Planning             |
| Mr. Robert Griffith | Chief, Strategic Planning and Economic Development |
| Ms. Karen Scott     | Assistant Chief Statewide Planning                 |
| Ms. Dawn Vittorioso | Executive Assistant                                |

**II. AGENDA ITEMS**

**1. Call to Order**

Mr. Licht called the meeting to order at 9:07 a.m.

**2. Approval of the March 10, 2011 Meeting Minutes**

Mr. Deller moved to approve the minutes of March 10, 2011 as presented. The motion was seconded by Ms. White-Raymond. There was no further discussion and the motion passed unanimously.

**3. Public Comment on Agenda Items**

None.

**4. CEDS Certification of EDA Grant Proposals – *for action***

**a. Quonset Development Corporation, Compass Circle Extension**

Mr. Griffith introduced the item, overviewed the project as documented in the agenda supplement and put forward the following findings:

1. The Quonset Development Corporation is an eligible applicant.
2. The required match has been identified.
3. The proposal is consistent with the State Guide Plan.

Ms. White-Raymond then asked how many companies are anticipated to occupy the space. In response, Ms. Katherine Trapani, Quonset Development Corporation Planning Manager, said that the property could, accommodate one large company or be configured into thirteen smaller parcels. Ms. Cola next asked if there was any interest in the property. Ms. Trapani said there was none as of yet. Ms. Cola then asked if the development would have any impact on the nearby Crossroads housing project. Ms. Trapani said it would not. Mr. Licht asked if the property was zoned industrial. Ms. Trapani said that it was.

As there were no further questions, Mr. Licht asked for a motion. Mr. Sequino moved to certify the application as CEDS eligible based on the findings above. Ms. White-Raymond seconded the motion. There was no further discussion and the motion passed unanimously.

b. Westerly RI, Bay Street Infrastructure

Mr. Griffith introduced the item, overviewed the project as documented in the agenda supplement and put forward the following findings:

1. The Town of Westerly is an eligible applicant.
2. The required match has been identified.
3. The proposal is consistent with the State Guide Plan.

Mr. Griffith concluded by asking the Committee to recommend that the State Planning Council certify the application as CEDS eligible based on the above findings.

Ms. Ahern, Town of Westerly Chief of Staff, next made some additional comments in support of the project. The following items were then discussed:

Ms. White-Raymond asked how the impact of construction on existing business could be minimized. In response, Ms. Ahern said that construction would begin in the late fall. Ms. White-Raymond then suggested educating the existing business prior to construction. Mr. Murray expressed his support and then reflected on the positive elements of the project.

As there were no further questions, Mr. Licht asked for a motion. Mr. Trevor moved to certify the application as CEDS eligible based on the findings above. Ms. Conard-Wells seconded the motion. There was no further discussion and the motion passed unanimously.

5. **CEDS Annual Report** – *for action*

Mr. Griffith reviewed the proposed CEDS Annual report as contained in the mailing and discussed in the agenda supplement. He drew specific attention to the additional text relative to the great Flood of 2010 inserted at the beginning of section 2 on page 22. Highlights of those items in which the State Planning Council engaged in discussion are as follows:

Mr. Licht asked if the disaster mitigation projects were underway. In response, Mr. Flynn said no, the State is still in the application phase.

Ms. Boyle asked if EDA disaster mitigation projects will be required to go through the CEDS certification process. Mr. Flynn indicated that they will not but, noted that the Division of Planning will have the opportunity to comment on their State Guide Plan consistency at a later date.

Ms. Conard-Wells asked if there was a real fear that sufficient applications would not be received. Mr. Flynn said yes, there is uncertainty. Mr. Licht asked if the State can set deadlines for applications. Mr. Flynn said no because EDA has established a “rolling application” format.. Ms. Boyle then asked what the deadline for committing the funds was. Mr. Flynn indicated September.

As there were no further questions, Mr. Licht asked for a motion. Mr. Deller moved to approve the 2010 CEDS Annual Report and Ms. White-Raymond seconded the motion. There was no further discussion and the motion passed unanimously.

6. **Unified Work Program for Transportation Planning, Proposed FY 2012 Work Tasks** – *for discussion*

Ms. Karen Scott presented the proposed FY 2012 work tasks as distributed with the State Planning Council packets. Highlights of those items in which the State Planning Council engaged in discussion are as follows:

Mr. Licht asked if the award of \$28M in rail funds would change the work plan. Ms. Scott said that she would investigate and report back at the next meeting.

Ms. Boyle next asked how the Council members could get a sense of the level of effort that is being assigned to each of the tasks in the work program. Mr. Rhodes committed to making this information available prior to the next meeting.

In furthering the discussion, Mr. Licht suggested including a “prioritization scheme” in the next year’s work program that assigns a specific priority to each task. Mr. Daniels added that the Governor plans to have each department take a “performance based” approach in formulating next year’s budget.

There being no further questions, Ms Scott reminded the Council that the item was on the days agenda for discussion only and that it would be placed on the Council’s June agenda for action.

7. **Associate Director’s Report**

Mr. Flynn addressed the following items under the Associate Director’s report:

- The May 4, 2011 Airport Systems Plan Public Hearing;
- EDA’s May 9-10 site visit to the port of Galilee;
- His recent presentation to Senate Committee on Sustainable Transportation funding;
- Status of the proposed amendment to the Comprehensive Planning Act;
- Status of Disaster Recovery Funding Programs;
- Status of the Wind Turbine Siting Guidelines/Land SAMP; and
- Retirements of Mark Brown & Bill McKenna and the recent hiring of June House

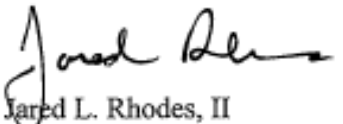
8. **Other Business**

Ms. Conard Wells asked if the recent vacancies will be included in the budget. Mr. Rhodes said that all the vacancies have been submitted and included in the Governor's proposed budget.

9. **Adjourn**

There being no further discussion, Mr. Deller motioned to adjourn. Ms. White-Raymond seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously and the meeting adjourned at 10:17 A.M.

Respectfully Submitted,

  
Jared L. Rhodes, II  
Secretary